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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/067,304	02/07/2002	Katsushi Fujii	219202US6	7100

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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314		

EXAMINER	
HUYNH, BA	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2179	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
06/11/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/067,304	Applicant(s) FUJII ET AL.	
	Examiner Ba Huynh	Art Unit 2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 4/13/07 has been entered.

Specification

2. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: In claim 5, the phrase "computer readable carrier" lacks proper antecedent basis. A phrase such as "A computer readable storage medium storing..." is acceptable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent application publication 2002/0071,540 (Dworkin), in view of US patent 6,363,352 (Dailey et al).

- As for claims 1, 3-5: Dworkin teaches a computer implemented system and corresponding method connected to a network server (figure 2) for managing a first service of distributing contents and a second service of providing a group chat space, in real-time according to a reservation made in advance by the first terminal, and, to a plurality of second terminals for requesting the use of first service and the use of a second service (0002-0008, 0015-0019), comprising the means/steps for:

acquiring means configured to acquire reservation information, sent by the first terminal, to the information processing apparatus from a reservation database in order to provide the first service to the second terminal (0015, 0025),

generating means configured to generate the chat space corresponding to the reservation at a predetermined time designated by the reservation (0019-0021, 0025-0028)

providing means for providing the chat space (0004, 0008, 0014, 0016, 0019, 0021, 0022, 0026, 0027) to the first and second terminals coincident with the first service (0004, 0019, 0021), the second terminal accessing the chat space and first service in accordance with authentication data (0024, 0025, 0028). Per Dworkin, recording/playback and live broadcasting services are provided (0027).

Dworkin discloses that chat room password is required for accessing the chat space (0026). Conference participants are notified and connected to scheduled conference at start time (0027). Streaming services, including whiteboarding and application sharing, are available for live broadcast of conferences (0027). Thus it appears that conference content is provided to the server such that whiteboarding and application sharing is available at the time of the conference. Even if it is not, implementation of providing conference content to the server is disclosed by Dailey et al (abstract, 3:61-4:3). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine Dailey's teaching of providing conference content to the server to Dworkin. Motivation of the combining is for the advantage of automating content distribution as suggested by Dailey (2:65-3:3). It further appears that authentication data ("chat room password") is included in the notification in order for the notified participant to be connected to the conference ("Purchase time options may include the video chat room and size, the video chat room password for access to the chat room's schedule and reservation" (Dworkin's 0026) and "Designated participants are notified by the ASP, and connected to scheduled conferences at start time" (Dworkin's 0027). Even if it is not, sending notification with authentication data by the server to conferee is well known in the art and is disclosed by Dailey's (Dailey's 10:10-18. See also US 2001/0023430, par 0006-0007 and US 2006/0090013, par 0108). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the

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invention was made, to combine the Dailey's teaching of including authentication data in the meeting request to Dworkin. Motivation of the combining is for real time conferencing as suggested by Dailey. Per Dailey, the chat space is generated at "predetermined time" prior to a distribution start time (Dailey's 5:27-30).

- As for claim 2: Dworkin fails to clearly teach deleting the chat space at pre-determined time after distribution end time. However Official notice is taken that implementation of deleting the chat space at pre-determined time after distribution end time would have been obvious to one of skill in the art at the time the invention was made. Motivation of the implementation is for accounting and schedule management purposes.
- As for claim 6-9: Per Dworkin, recording/playback and live broadcasting services are provided (0027). The combined Dworkin&Dailey fails to clearly teach forwarding the chat conducted in the chatroom to the first terminal upon completion of the service. However implementation of sending a copy of the chat or meeting to a designated terminal is well known in the art (see US 5,852,656, claims 9 and 10; US 2005/0101338, par 0076; US 2002/0178222, par 0004). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the well known implementation of forwarding the chat conducted in the chatroom to the first terminal upon completion of the service to Dworkin&Dailey. Motivation is for management purpose.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

REMARKS:

Claim 1 recites “a first service of distributing contents” and “the contents being provided to the server by a first terminal”. Dworkin discloses means for providing the chat space (0004, 0006, 0019, 0021, 0022) to the first and second terminals coincident with the first service (0004, 0019, 0021), the second terminal accessing the chat space and first service in accordance with authentication data (0024, 0025, 0028). Conference participants are notified by the ASP and connected to scheduled conference at start time (0027). Streaming services, including whiteboarding and application sharing, are available for live broadcast of conferences (0027). Thus it appears that conference content is provided to the server such that whiteboarding and application sharing is available at the time of the conference. Even if it is not, implementation of providing conference content to the server is disclosed by Dailey et al (abstract, 3:61-4:3). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine Dailey’s teaching of providing conference content to the server to Dworkin. Motivation of the combining is for the advantage of automating content distribution as suggested by Dailey (2:65-3:3). In response to applicant's argument that Dworkin does not teach creating a group chatroom coincident with the first service, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

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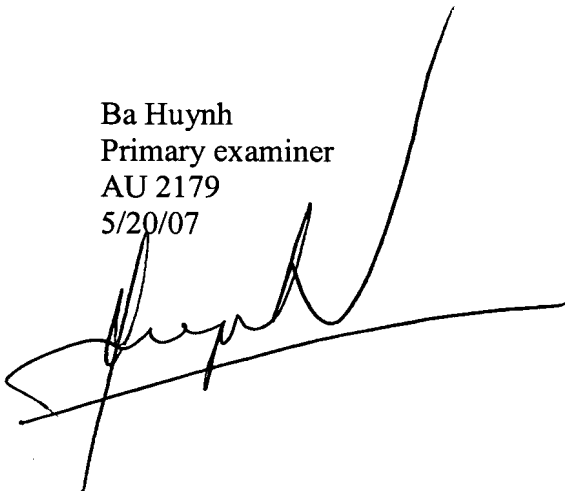
As for claims 6-9, the rejection have been modified to address the amended limitation, i.e., sending a recorded copy of a conference is well known and would have been obvious to one of skill in the ar for management purpose.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ba Huynh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4138. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ba Huynh
Primary examiner
AU 2179
5/20/07

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ba Huynh', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.